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DRAFT/JDJams

30 June 1976

Approved For Release 2001/09/04 : CIA-RDP80-00473A000300050029-7

46-3292

MEMORANDUM FOR: John D. Iams

SUBJECT : CIA SIGINT

Jack:

1. As you know, outside reviewers--particularly the House Appropriations Committee--have raised questions about CIA activities in the SIGINT field. Whatever the nature and motivations of the questions, the subject is fair game for a deep and intensive internal Agency study.
2. At the heart of the subject are three issues we should resolve to our satisfaction:
 - A. What must CIA do in SIGINT in keeping with the CIA mission?
 - B. What can CIA do to help the Community at large in this same area?
 - C. What savings in Agency resources are possible by changing the way we carry out our SIGINT mission?
3. We need to address these questions not only for the present but also for the future, paying close attention to the development of a continuing and clearly definable role for CIA SIGINT.

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4. Finally, after developing findings in the above areas we need to develop clear options proposing ways for CIA to organize effectively to carry out its SIGINT mission. Such organizational alternatives should include a recommendation for the proper role of the CIA SIGINT Officer.

5. In order to accomplish this much needed rethinking of CIA's place in the SIGINT world, I am asking you to serve as my Special Assistant for SIGINT and as Chairman of a SIGINT Task Force to furnish definitive recommendations to me by 15 January 1977. During this period you will also serve as the CIA SIGINT Officer.

6. Because of the importance of this project, the Deputy Director for Operations and the Deputy Director for Science and Technology have agreed to release [REDACTED] Chief, Division D, DDO and Mr. James V. Hirsch, Director, Office of ELINT, DDS&T, to act as full time members of your team. I have been assured that during this period they will separate themselves fully from their organizational and operational duties.

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7. It is imperative that the three of you deliberate in complete candor with full and equal access to all the information necessary to complete your job. It is equally important that

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you consider the issues without regard to any personal or bureaucratic complications that might arise therefrom. Your findings and recommendations must thus serve the interest of the Agency as a whole.

8. You should be prepared to report regularly on your progress to the Executive Advisory Group and should be alert to keep the Deputy Director for Operations and the Deputy Director for Science and Technology (in your confidence as to any major changes you may propose which could affect their directorates) or the services and facilities furnished to them by the present Office of ELINT and Division D.

9. During the period of your efforts, (I would expect no fundamental changes) in the current organization and resources of OEL and Division D. I am, therefore, directing that the Comptroller be consulted before any such changes are effected.

10. This will be a difficult and arduous task which will require the full dedication of yourself and your colleagues from Division D and the Office of ELINT. Recognizing this, I am asking that everyone in the Agency give you their fullest cooperation and support.

Enno H. Knoche
Deputy Director

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Remarks: <p>This seemed to [redacted] and me a reasonable way of restating the last sentence of paragraph 12 of the joint NSA/CIA principles about SIGINT. The deleted words are shown, and the new words inserted are underlined.</p> <p>Here is your full copy.</p>					
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